

a collaboration of federal, state, regional and local agencies advancing geo-spatial technologies

National States Geographic Information Council Mid-Year Conference – Annapolis Maryland March 19 – 22

- State Caucus NSGIC held a state caucus for much of day 1 of the Mid-Year. This was very productive and dealt mostly with NSGIC initiatives. States were mostly in favor of these initiatives with some exceptions. These initiatives include the following:
 - a. Imagery for the Nation This is an attempt to get direct allocation from congress to fund 3 levels of imagery collection. The first level is nationwide (except Alaska) annual collection of the 1-meter NAIP. The second level is 1-foot annual collection in every state east of the Mississippi and in selected areas meeting a population density of >25 people per square mile west of the Mississippi. The third level is 6 inch annual collection in all Census defined urban places. The funding would need to allocate to two departments (Interior and Agriculture), build on existing data distribution mechanisms and combine existing expenditures. NSGIC estimates approximately \$111 annually for this to be successful and also estimates a significant cost savings (annually) for combining this collection. 100% of the data would be in the public domain. The initiative has been endorsed by NACo and the National Digital Orthoimagery Program (NDOP). Some concern about the urban coverage may prompt changes in the formula.
 - b. Fifty States Initiative This is an initiative begun last year which aims to raise the states ability to 1) fit into the National Spatial Data Infrastructure 2) better leverage existing funds and 3) provide the best GIS service to local constituencies. This effort focuses on having the states create a Strategic Plan and a Business Plan focused on Framework Data. These plans must take considerable account for calculating return on investment. NSGIC has provided plan outlines, roadmaps and templates which walk states through the process. Completion of these plans is crucial to inclusion in NSDI. The first round of FGDC funding has been awarded and will provide seed money for 10 states to develop strategic plans.
 - c. Ramona This initiative is a www software designed to be an inventory tool for local entities within states, and will provide a tool for state strategic planning. It is specific to each state, and collects much information about the data within each state, and provides expanded contact information. This effort rose out of many surveys which came about post 9/11 as required by the NGPO @ USGS and other federal agencies. A state administrator must be first



a collaboration of federal, state, regional and local agencies advancing geo-spatial technologies

defined. The initial focus of the survey is framework data, but many other ISO data categories are included. The system is live. It is not yet capable of harvesting information from GOS metadata, but many states are interested in NSGIC expanding this service to accommodate existing metadata portals. It can generate some rudimentary FGDC metadata elements.

2. Individual Presentations

- a. Western States Governors Association—There is some concern in the western states about the role of WSGA. Apparently a subcommittee has formed several years ago, but is recently inactive, called the Western States Geographic Information Council: western states' NSGIC representatives met to determine an interest in reactivating this group. The Chair of this sub-group has a seat at the FGDC, so the group though this was important to obtain reauthorization. A conference call of the states is expected in April to discuss possible actions such as endorsing Imagery For The Nation, cadastral work, (there was one other thing which I forgot). The next WSGC meeting is in June.
- b. National Geospatial Programs Office at USGS and sister agencies in the Department of Interior are going through a significant effort called Line of Business. This LOB affects the entire enterprise and creats a specific function at the Office of Management and Budgets for geospatial work. The benefit is the identification of 'geospatial' as a key function of government; the drawback is it requires a hefty effort by USGS and OMB to create the LOB. The LOB would permeate through federal government and would require annual efforts of performance evaluation.
- c. California met individually with Karen Siderelis (USGS GIO) In this meeting we were following up with a meeting Karen had with someone from the Governor's office in DC about a month ago. We told Karen we would draft a letter for Karen to forward on the the Governor's Office thanking her for her interest and asking for follow-up with the Sacramento staff. This individual spent a whole day at Reston participating in hazards-related briefings, including mapping technologies.
- d. Key federal presentations on programs included
 - i. URISA Address Standard
 - ii. Census data (TIGER Roads) and incorporation of local data
 - iii. USGS Lines Of Business
 - iv. Geographic Names Information System
 - v. EPA Enterprise GIS
 - vi. BLM GCDB

vii.



a collaboration of federal, state, regional and local agencies advancing geo-spatial technologies